

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 05613 212209Z

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8421

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (MANSFIELD, MICHAEL J.) JA, KS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF FRANCIS J. VALEO

1. SECRETARY OF SENATE, FRANK VALEO, ARRIVED SEOUL AFTERNOON OF JULY 16. FOLLOWING EARLY SATURDAY MORNING BRIEFING WITH AMBASSADOR, VALEO MET WITH SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT NEW ASSEMBLY BUILDING AND LATER ATTENDED LUNCHEON HOSTED BY SECGEN WITH HIS SENIOR STAFF.

2. AT AMBASSADOR'S DINNER IN HONOR OF NEWLY ARRIVED DCM, VALEO MET WITH WIDE SPECTRUM OF KEY ROK AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS INCLUDING VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS YUN HA-CHONG, AS WELL AS BLUE HOUSE SENIOR PROTOCOL SECRETARY AND BLUE HOUSE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

3. ON JULY 18, VALEO TRAVELED TO PANMUNJOM FOR BRIEFING, DEPARTING SEOUL JULY 19 AFTER CALLS ON VICE FOREIGN MINISTER AND BLUE HOUSE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, YI YONG-HUI.

4. VALEO'S PRINCIPLE INTERESTS WERE IN REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUED U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE AND IN KOREAN ECONOMIC AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS. WHILE REFLECTING SENATOR MANSFIELD'S WELL KNOWN VIEWS ON TROOP PRESENCE VALEO EMPHASIZED PERSONAL VIEW TO BLUE HOUSE SPECIAL ASSISTANT

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FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS YI THAT MAINTENANCE OF SECURITY

ON KOREAN PENINSULA OF PRIME IMPORTANCE AND THAT U.S.
TROOP PRESENCE SHOULD ONLY BE ADJUSTED IN ACCORD WITH
REQUIREMENT. VALEO'S APPROACH WAS INTERESTED, KNOWLEDGEABLE,
AND OBJECTIVE; HE TOOK EXTENSIVE NOTES AT EMBASSY BRIEFING;
AND WE EXPECT HE WILL PREPARE REPORT ON HIS VISIT
ON RETURN.
SNEIDER

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